THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
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ART MUSEUM CELEBRATES MUSEUM WEEK

ART: THE INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE will be on view at The Cleveland Museum of Art beginning October 2. This unusual exhibition is being held in cooperation with the United Nations and the International Council of Museums in celebration of "Museum Week". Dr. William M. Milliken, First Vice President of ICOM and Director of The Cleveland Museum of Art, announced today that forty-five nations and over 100 museums in the United States alone will participate in International Museum Week October 7 through October 13. The purpose of Museum Week is to pay tribute to the invaluable cultural and scientific services museums have rendered to their communities and to enlist civic support.

The Museum exhibition emphasizes the role of the museum in promoting international understanding and shows that through seeing and appreciating the art of man the world over - unhampered by verbal or political barriers - be begin to comprehend his philosophy of life and emotions. Secondly, the exhibition stresses the great educational contribution of the museum to its own community, providing fundamental knowledge which helps man to evaluate himself.

ART: THE INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE is divided into the three sections of religious art, secular art and museum education. The religious section illustrates how art began as religion. Even the prehistoric cave drawings were in effect an offering or form of worship to man's unseen protectors and benefactors, his gods. In this section are paintings and sculpture created by the world's major religions - Hindu, Hebrew, Buddist, Christian, Islam and Taoism. The gallery arrangement shows the unity of mankind in his love and striving for God, and the diverse forms in which this religious feeling is conceived.

The second section of the exhibition is devoted to the sorrows, joys and everyday experiences of man's relationship to man. Painting subjects such as the family, portraits, historic events along with utilitarian objects such

as furniture, pottery, textiles and jewels convey the variety and richness of life's activities and emotions. In the third section large photographic murals show the educational work constantly maintained within the Museum through classes and lectures. Circulating exhibits by the Museum's Extension Department illustrate the Museum's educational influence expanding outside the Museum's walls.

Throughout the world today museums are being re-evaluated in terms of their contribution to culture, education and society as a whole. The vitality and accomplishments of American and Cleveland museums have played a major part in this re-evaluation. Other Cleveland institutions taking part in the world campaign are The Museum of Natural History which will have an exhibition of Bird Paintings from Venezuela, The Western Reserve Historical Society which will have an exhibition entitled MAKE HISTORY LIVE, and the Health Museum, which will display a HUMAN HEREDITY Exhibit.